

FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

W. M. LYON

Last Sunday was a "jubilee" in the fullest sense to our "little flock" in this city. Five more were added to the fold,—four by baptism and one by letter, and after confirmation services at night one more came forward; so the Lord's work moves on gloriously and we give him all the praise. The offerings on Sunday amounted to \$17 96. We had asked the members to *indulge freely* in the *luxury of self denial* during the week. One sister had intended to buy a pair of kid gloves for the season, but she concluded to take the one dollar and give it to the Lord's cause and do without the gloves. Another sister concluded to put off buying a pair of shoes and give the money to the church. Our Sunday school set apart five dollars for the foreign mission fund the same day. "Well, if they can do that well, we will let the Washington City mission help itself after this."

It seems to me that I can hear a few talking that way. Brethren and sisters, please bear with us a little when we wish to indulge a little in this blessing. We are just helping in a *small way* to lay the foundation to do for others what you have helped to do for us in time of need, and if we are not *greatly mistaken* the time is not far distant when we shall not only be self-supporting but will be able and willing, too, to help others.

We note a gradual increase in Sunday school. We have taken it upon ourselves to make a personal house to house canvass for the Sunday school, using two or three hours each day in this way. After all the personal work is about the only kind that really tells, and if it were so that we could have some one to follow that work regularly, making a complete canvass of the entire community, we are confident that we would soon have quite a large school, but we will continue to pray for the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers.

I should have mentioned before this that brother H. R. Dooley, of Hagerstown, Md., has located here permanently. We extend a most cordial welcome to him and his family. Sister Susie Kline also comes from the same place and we received her by letter on last Sunday and bid her a hearty welcome in the name of the Lord. Before closing this letter I must make mention of several things which have impressed me.

First. Ward Schlossnagel of Wooster, Ohio, sent one dollar to help pay for church house and has written a nice letter; says he is only eight years old, and expects to become a "member of the Brethren church and perhaps preach in the Washington church some day." Amen! Stranger things than that have taken place. He will probably find his letter "on file" when that time comes.

Second. Rose Brinker and Sybil Shaver, of Maurertown, Va., deserve special mention. How they did work to get those "Brick cards" filled out! Rose says, "I walked several miles to try to get my card full." Well, praise God, she succeeded, too.

When she sings, "I want to be a worker for the Lord," it will make the angels glad. Lots of people must make them sad when they sing one thing and act another. We often sing, "Walking in the King's Highway." It is a grand old hymn. Last week one day, our little boy, Thoburn, got to singing that beautiful chorus, but somehow he got it, "Sitting in the King's Highway." The Lord wants us to keep walking. There is no place for any one to sit down on the King's highway. Rose concludes her interesting letter by saying, "If I ever get to Washington I am coming to see you, also want to see our church," etc. That is right, come on and welcome. We shall do our best to make you a pleasant time while in the city.

And this reminds me of what brother D. C. Moomaw writes in a letter just received: "Now if there is a real cheap excursion east this year, you may look for a deputation from Bethany, Virginia. We must get some *direct, personal* benefit from our *investment*, you see." (Italics mine.) Of course, brother D. C. does not mean to say by this that he did not get a real, personal benefit, or blessing, when he contributed so freely and liberally to this work; neither does he mean to say that by making a visit here he would thereby receive a greater blessing, but,—Well, anyhow come one, come all, and I will finish this talk when you get here, and give me an opportunity to realize the meaning of Acts 20: 35.

Third. I must not close without acknowledging the receipt of another letter from Hugo Paul Wise containing an additional \$5 00. This is the way he got the money: "I sold six bantams and a chicken that was given to me. I told papa I will sacrifice enough from my bank account to make it \$5 00."

What a glorious example! Let me tell you, friends, there are many who do not like to sell chickens and presents, too, and slice into their bank accounts for the sake of adding to their stock in heavenly things. Just across the street from our home lives Johnnie Hayre. He is about 8 years old. His mother sent for me to come over on April 2, the day we had to settle for our church home. First, his sisters, Maggie and Susie got their savings together and, if I am not very greatly mistaken, they did not reserve a penny, but turned all over to help pay for the church; then Johnnie came with his bank and insisted on pouring out every cent for the Lord. Some may think that we should not take up valuable space in our church paper with an account of these things, but they have made impressions on my mind and I feel like speaking of them to others. Would like to speak of many other such things but have not the time at present. Very busy now trying to arrange for a baptistery. The church property has so far been without sewerage connection and water supply. This makes quite a good deal of work and expense but they are actual necessities.

We shall be truly glad when we shall have finished with all of these things and can give our time exclusively to spiritual things. So far we have no brethren but such as are employed during the day and therefore the missionary is compelled to look after the temporal affairs of the church almost exclusively, and yet the Lord is blessing the work here in a marvelous way. Praise his name! Pray for us.

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Chicago Mission

Among the many blessings both spiritual and temporal, that we must express our thanks for, we feel to make special mention the following: Three precious souls baptized Wednesday night, and others near the kingdom. The deep interest among our neighbors in the work, and to our friends at Milledgeville, Ill., who have not forgotten us and the arduous labors to which we are called. Bro. Henry Livengood's family sent us two nice chickens, and some nice sweet butter. Brethren and sisters from Milledgeville, also sent us a whole crate of eggs which were received to-day, and as we looked upon the names that had been written on some of the eggs, our thoughts went back to the six years of happy pastoral labors we spent in the Milledgeville church. Brethren and sisters, please accept our thanks for the kindly Easter remembrance.

On the evening of Easter Sunday, we have our Missionary-barrel opening, when all the children, and older folks too, will bring their missionary barrels and pour out their contents for an offering to the Lord. We will have a short program by the children. Sister Gibbons being unable to take the work in hand owing to ill health, Sister Miller who was for several years organist in the old Kirkland mission, is entitled to much credit for training the children. Sister Gibbons will be with us on Easter Sunday, and the children are waiting anxiously for her to take up the S. S. work again, which will be soon.

Last week we spent a few days at Claypool, Ind. in a Bible conference with the church at that place. Attendance was light the first two days, but closed with full house and deep interest. We hope to some time visit Claypool again, and conduct another convention.

Stanley, Wisconsin is arranging to hold another meeting in the near future, at which time we will organize them into a church. The few meetings we held among them was blessed of the Lord in the conversion of souls. We will also hold a ten days meeting at Auburn, Ill. in the near future.

Work in our mission is promising, and the Lord is blessing our labors. Pray for us.

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If thy heart wert upright, the whole world were naught else unto thee but a glass to frame thy life, and a book of godly instructions.—*Thomas a Kempis*.